The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 2 OF 2013

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every community member of Centre County; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our community as seen by statistics indicating that one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

WHEREAS, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in preventing sexual violence in Centre County through increased education, awareness, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Centre County Board of Commissioners strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen, to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence. It's time for all of us to start conversations, take appropriate action and support one another to create a safer environment for all.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners join the Centre County Women's Resource Center in playing an active role to prevent sexual violence and proclaim April 2013 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month."

ADOPTED this 2nd day of April, 2013

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steven G. Dershem, Chairman

C. Chris Exarchos

Wishes Wine

Timothy T. Boyde, Director Administrative Services